

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PORT L 00709 011323Z  
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 DHA-02 H-02  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /026 W  
-----023730 011327Z /41  
P 011248Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6827

UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 0709

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CARR  
SUBJECT: LEGAL REPRESENTATION AVAILABLE TO AMERICANS  
ARRESTED ABROAD

REF: STATE 147704

1. ACCORDING TO MR. LEUNG SHING, CROWN COUNSEL AND CURRENTLY ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL, FREE LEGAL COUNSEL OF THE "PUBLIC DEFENDER" TYPE, CALLED LEGAL AID LOCALLY, IS AVAILABLE BUT IS LIMITED TO INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN PROVE DESTITUTION AND WHO ARE CHARGED WITH SERIOUS OFFENSES. REQUESTS FOR LEGAL AID ARE MADE TO THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE, AND FACTORS WHICH DETERMINE WHETHER A REQUEST IS APPROVED OR DENIED ARE FLEXIBLE AND HANDLED ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. GENERALLY, REQUESTS FOR LEGAL AID BY FOREIGN NATIONALS IN MAURITIUS ARE DENIED BECAUSE THEY CANNOT ADEQUATELY PROVE INABILITY TO PAY PRIVATE COUNSEL.

2. LEGAL AID LAWYERS ARE SELECTED ON ROTATING BASIS FROM ROSTER OF ALL PRIVATE LAWYERS IN MAURITIUS WHO HAVE BEEN PRACTICING LAW FOR LESS THEN TEN YEARS. QUALITY OF LEGAL AID COULD THEREFORE BE LOWER THAN PAID, PRIVATE COUNSEL IF COUNSEL SELECTED LACKS LEGAL EXPERIENCE AND

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EXPERTISE.  
KEELEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION SCSE  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LEGAL REPRESENTATION AVAILABLE TO AMERICANS ARRESTED ABROAD  
**TAGS:** CARR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
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